

## GREAT OCEAN STEAMSHIP DEAL TO BE MADE PUBLIC SHORTLY.

Union of Freight-Carrying  
Fleets Object of  
Combination.

ARRANGED BY J. P. MORGAN

Shipping, Railway, and Oil Men In-  
terested in Scheme.

THE DETAILS NOT GIVEN OUT.

Information at New York Says Car-  
go Fleets of White Star, Cunard,  
Leyland, and American Lines Are  
to Be Joined—Liverpool Agents  
of Community of Interest Agreement

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—For the last several months stories have been current in New York and London to the effect that a merger of some of the great British steamship lines with the American Line would be effected by Mr. J. P. Morgan. The Leyland Line was purchased by Mr. Morgan, but as often as stories were circulated that the great American financier was about to get control of lines like the Cunard or the White Star, they were authoritatively denied on both sides of the ocean.

An Important Union.  
It may be now stated positively that within a short time the announcement will be made of the most important union of ocean steamship lines ever before attempted and completed. For the past few months Mr. Morgan has been at work on this matter, and within the last few days the details of the merger have been practically completed in his New York office.

This announcement is made on the authority of a person in Wall Street who is

## PLANS CABLED TO PRINCE.

Outline of Programme Sub-  
mitted by Embassy.

SOME PROBABLE DETAILS.

Nothing to Be Given Out Until Arrangements Are Formally Approved by the Royal Visitors—Builder of Yacht Consults With President—The Reception Committee.

A long cable message was sent by the German Embassy yesterday to the Foreign Office in Berlin outlining the programme arranged by the United States Government for the reception and entertainment of Prince Henry of Prussia. The programme is subject to the approval of the prince, and until that has been received no formal announcement of the plans for his visit will be made.

Unable to Fix Date.

The authorities here who have charge of the arrangements for entertaining the Kaiser's brother are all at sea as to the date of the launching. Wallace Downey, president of the Townsend-Downey Company, which is building the imperial yacht to be named by Miss Alice Roosevelt, yesterday advised President Roosevelt and other officials concerned that it would not be safe to send the yacht overboard after February 25.

The tide at his shipyard on Staten Island is at the flood on February 26, and then begins to recede. Mr. Downey said that the yacht needed about fourteen feet of water and it would be risky to defer the launching until after the date named.

Later Developments Arise.

This view met with the approval of the German Embassy and the State Department, and it was decided to cable Prince Henry that it was advisable to have the launching at 10:30 o'clock on Friday morning, February 25. Later in the day, however, certain things developed that may interfere with this arrangement. What these things are the officials declined to say. They explained that the whole programme would be made known in two or three days.

President Roosevelt yesterday appointed a commission to arrange for the reception and entertainment of the prince. The members are David Jayne Hill, Assistant Secretary of State; Maj. Gen. Henry C. Corbin, Adjutant General United States Army; and Rear Admiral Robley D. Evans, United States Navy. These three officers will meet Prince Henry at New York and stay with him all the time he will remain in this country.

Will Be Aide to Prince.

In addition to serving on the commission, Admiral Evans will command the squadron of warships which is to greet the prince and will be his personal aide during the entire visit. Count A. von Quadt-Wykardt-Lenz, First Secretary of the German Embassy, has been designated by the German Ambassador to consult with the commission, and Col. Theodore A. Bingham, United States Army, Commander of Public Buildings and Grounds, has been appointed as adviser to the commission on matters of court etiquette and ceremonial.

Length of Royal Visit.

Assistant Secretary Hill told something to a reporter last evening about the arrangements for the prince's visit: "I have consulted today," he said, "with the German Embassy in regard to the visit of his Royal Highness. It is now understood that he will arrive at New York on the steamship Kron Prinz Wilhelm on Satur-

day, and that he will sail on the following Saturday, March 8, on the Columbia.

"Before we can announce to the public any definite project, it is necessary to ascertain the wishes of Prince Henry and the German Emperor in regard to any plan of arrangements for the prince's visit and journey in our country, which will be submitted to him for his approval before it is adopted.

May Visit the West.

"I think very likely that the prince will go to St. Louis and Chicago. We will arrange this by cable, and we shall know definitely in two or three days. It is contemplated that the prince shall see as much as possible of our country in the limited time of his sojourn.

Ex-Governor Francis, of Missouri, came here personally, with other prominent men of his State, to see if it could be arranged that the prince would visit St. Louis. An invitation came also from Chicago, and there are requests at the State Department and the German Embassy from a number of other cities which want to entertain the royal visitor.

The Probable Programme.

From what was said yesterday it is believed that the commission will try to arrange a programme something like this: Immediately after landing at New York the prince will take a special train for Washington which will reach the capital early that evening. He will go from the railroad station to the German Embassy, and that night will pay his visit of ceremony to President Roosevelt, who will return the visit on Sunday. On Sunday night there will be a dinner at the German Embassy in honor of the prince.

To Attend Memorial Service.

Then, on the 27th, he will come to Washington and attend the McKinley memorial services at the Capitol, and that night there will be a dinner in the prince's honor at the White House.

This will leave nine days for the prince to go to Chicago and St. Louis and get back to New York on March 5, when his ship sails for Germany.

The President desires the prince to realize how much he appreciates the friendliness displayed by the Emperor William, and he is greatly interested in the programme for the reception and entertainment of the visitor. He talked to the Cabinet today about the coming of Prince Henry, and it was evident from what he said that he regards the prince's visit as a matter of political importance.

QUESTION OF BOTTLE HOLDER.

Prince Henry Likely to Furnish One to Be Used.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—An elaborate silver bottleholder, of costly design, was recently completed by Tiffany & Co., and rumor has it that it was for the bottle of wine which Miss Alice Roosevelt is to break over the bow of the Kaiser's new yacht, when she names it at Shooter's Island, in the presence of Prince Henry.

While Tiffany & Co. refused to give out any information about the order which they have just completed, it was learned from Townsend & Downey, the builders of the Emperor's yacht, that the holder had not been ordered by them, but that they understood it was one that a wine house had made, and offered to them for the ceremony, provided, of course, that it did not offend the prince.

"We did not accept the offer," a member of the firm said today, "because the owner of the yacht always looks after such a thing as that, and we do not expect that Prince Henry will neglect it. The holder of the bottle used in christening a boat is always presented after the ceremony, with the broken pieces of it."

In this case it would be Miss Roosevelt, it is almost a certainty that Prince Henry has ordered bottle and holder, and will bring them over with him. That is what we told the wine firm.

"I understand that the holder they have had made is of silver basket work, and is very nice."

## GAYNORS MUST SURRENDER.

Judge Lacombe Orders Them to Appear in Court Monday.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Judge Lacombe, in the United States Circuit Court, issued an order today commanding Benjamin D. Gaynor, John T. Gaynor, Edward H. Gaynor, and William T. Gaynor to appear in court next Monday and surrender themselves to the custody of United States Marshal Henkel for the purpose of removal to the Southern District of Georgia for trial.

The order was issued on the motion of Marion E. Irwin, special assistant to the Attorney General, who moved that the mandate of the United States Supreme Court, issued recently, be made the mandate of the Circuit Court.

This mandate denied the right of the defendants to avoid removal by the issue of writs of habeas corpus, and nothing now stands between them and their trial for complicity with former Captain Oberlin M. Carter, now in Fort Leavenworth prison, for misappropriating Government funds.

SIDE TRIPS CUT OUT.

President Roosevelt Will Only Visit Charleston Exposition.

President Roosevelt will make no side visits when he goes to Charleston, S. C., to attend the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian Exposition on Lincoln's birthday, February 12. This will be on account of the short time at his disposal to hunt deer on the game preserve of Captain Wagner, president of the exposition.

Secretary Cortelyou made public yesterday the details of the trip to Charleston. These arrangements are merely provisional. It is expected that the President will be accompanied by four or five Cabinet officers, as many as will be able to leave Washington at the time.

A committee of officials of the city government and of the exposition will meet the Presidential party at the railroad station. They will be escorted to the house or hotel, which will be the White House as long as the President remains in that city.

The visit to the exposition will occur on February 12. In the evening he will be the honored guest at a banquet. The return trip will begin either late on the evening of Wednesday, February 12, or on the following morning.

In addition to Captain Wagner's invitation to the President to hunt at Summerville, S. C., there have been invitations extended him to go to Atlanta and Savannah. He will be unable to accept these at this time, however, but hopes to visit those cities later on.

In addition to the Cabinet officers and the President, the personnel of the party will include Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Alice Roosevelt, Miss Carow, who is Mrs. Roosevelt's sister, and Mr. J. K. Gracie, who is her uncle.

The details of the programme at the exposition grounds will be communicated to the President by the exposition officials at an early date.

MINERS KILLED IN CAVE-IN.

Three Men Dead and One Dying at Joplin.

JOPLIN, Jan. 17.—In a cave-in at the Ada mine, at Carterville, near here, today, three miners lost their lives, another was fatally injured, and several others were seriously hurt. The dead are:

JOHN SYMONS.

ARTHUR ROBERTS.

BRUCE WESTFALL.

Don Westfall was fatally injured.

The accident was caused by a premature explosion of dynamite, which blocked the entrance to the mine. It took several hours' work by the men from adjoining mines before the imprisoned miners were reached.

May Have Had Signal.

The testimony of other witnesses who were in the tunnel just after the acci-

## OFTEN RAN PAST SIGNALS.

Reports of Engineers Read  
At Tunnel Wreck  
Inquest.

ALL LIGHTS LOOKED WHITE

Men Said Smoke and Fog Obscured  
Red and Green Lanterns.

TORPEDOES DID NOT SOUND.

Railroad Expert on Witness Stand  
Denounced Sending of Inexperienced Men Through With Trains as  
Negligence—Brakeman May Have  
Hidden Warning of Danger.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Joseph H. Franklin, track superintendent of the New York Central Railroad from Mott Haven to Forty-second Street, was again the most important witness today before the coroner's jury which is enquiring into the Park Avenue tunnel disaster of January 8.

Mr. Franklin brought with him and certified to the accuracy of eighteen reports of engineers for 1901, in which the shortcomings of these engineers in the matter of obeying signals in the Park Avenue tunnel were gone into at length.

Passed Danger Signals.

The reports tended to confirm the testimony of Mr. Franklin on Thursday that engineers had repeatedly complained to him that they were unable to see the signal lights in the tunnel on dark and foggy days.

Several trains ran past danger signals. One train on December 29, 1900, passed a danger signal by the train's length. Two trains in one day last March passed danger signals. The engineers generally gave as excuses that steam and smoke obscured the signals.

Signals Looked White.

Some engineers passed a signal because a torpedo did not explode. An engineer and a fireman reported that dirty cab windows had made a red light look white. Several engineers reported that smoke and steam had made green signals look white. Other excuses were fog, bad rails, and failure of bells to ring.

Next in interest to the testimony of Mr. Franklin came that of several Baltimore and experts of the New York Central.

Called It Negligence.

One expert said boldly that he regarded the sending of a man through the tunnel with a passenger train, when the man had no previous training as a passenger engineer, was negligence. It did not come out in the testimony that Wisler had not had the instruction and advice of an old hand before being put in charge of the Harlem train which caused the disaster of last week, but District Attorney Jerome asked him privately if he had had the benefit of a pilot's advice before being put in charge of the train, and he is said to have replied that he had not.

May Have Had Signal.

The testimony of other witnesses who were in the tunnel just after the acci-

dent raised an interesting point just before the close of the proceedings for the day, which will undoubtedly be gone into further on Monday, when the inquest will be resumed. It was that Brakeman Barum, of the New Haven train, in running back from his train to signal any approaching train on the same track, may have obscured the red signal at Fifty-ninth Street which told Engineer Wisler that there was danger on the block ahead.

It was shown that he must have been within a few feet of that signal, which is on the ground, when Wisler's train went dashing by.

DR. KUYPER BORE TERMS.

Boer Delegates Said to Have In-

formed Prime Minister.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The newspapers give prominence to a Brussels despatch reasserting that the visit of Dr. Kuyper, Prime Minister of the Netherlands, to England, was made in connection with the re-establishment of peace in South Africa. The despatch says that Dr. Kuyper advised the Boer delegates to allow it to be known on what basis they would be willing to negotiate for peace.

The delegates demurred, but ultimately a meeting of the delegates and Dr. Kuyper was arranged to take place in Brussels on January 1. Dr. Kuyper then offered personally to ascertain in London whether the British Government genuinely desired peace, but he first requested to know the terms on which the delegates would open negotiations.

After six hours' discussion the terms were agreed upon and Dr. Kuyper went to London, having, however, emphatically assured the Boers that the Netherlands Government would on no account act as intermediary for them with Great Britain.

The story abruptly ends here.

PLAN TO BOYCOTT GERMANY.

Nations Ready to Aid Russia in

Tariff Battle.

VIENNA, Jan. 17.—The evening papers announce that Russia is trying to organize a commercial alliance against the proposed German tariff.

Austria, Italy, Denmark, Switzerland, Serbia, and Roumania are represented as being willing to co-operate in what would prove a virtual boycott of Germany.

FEAR GERMAN COLONIES.

Australians Protest Over Granting

of Trading Rights.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—According to the "Daily Mail," Sydney, N. S. W., correspondent, Australians are agitated over the threatened Germanization of the Ellice and Gilbert Islands, owing to a German company acquiring important trading rights.

Pressure is being exerted on Mr. Barton, Prime Minister of the Australian Commonwealth, to induce him to protest vigorously to Great Britain. Mr. Barton says he realizes the gravity of the situation.

FIRE IN FASHIONABLE HOTEL.

Blaze on Seventh Floor of the Plaza,

New York.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Fire was discovered in a room on the seventh floor of the Plaza, Fifth Avenue and Fifty-ninth Street, this afternoon and gained such headway before anything could be done to check it that had not the building been of fireproof construction there might have been a serious loss.

As it was, the flames were confined to three rooms, which were all ablaze when the firemen appeared. There were, of course, many persons in the building, but the guests kept cool.

No one was hurt.

## WORSHIPPERS IN CHURCH KILLED BY EARTHQUAKE.

Entire Town Said to Be in  
Ruins as Result of the Se-  
vere Shocks on Thurs-  
day Afternoon.

CITY OF MEXICO, Jan. 17.—A tele-

gram has reached this city announcing that the city of Chilpancingo, in the State of Guerrero, Mexico, suffered severely from an earthquake shock yesterday, and that 600 persons were killed.

The shock of the earthquake was felt in many cities and towns of the Republic. In the City of Mexico the earthquake was felt at 5:17 p. m. Beyond a few cracks in buildings no damage was done in the city.

Details from Chilpancingo are meagre, but scattering reports received here say the town is in ruins. The State capital.

Church Falls on Worshippers.

The number of deaths was greater in the parish church, as a crowd of worshippers were gathered there for the afternoon service. The solid masonry walls and roof came tumbling down on the worshippers, and many persons were killed.

Troops have been ordered to co-operate in the work of rescue. Until this is completed it will be impossible accurately to learn the number of victims. The greater part of the population of Chilpancingo are

the parish church, and many business houses and residences were demolished, and there is much suffering.

One of the edifices that suffered most was the federal telegraph office, which has so far reached this city. The telegraph employees, all of whom were uninjured, quickly proceeded to erect an improvised telegraph office on the outskirts of the city.

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Six Hundred Persons Reported to Be Dead in Chilpancingo, Mexico—Details are Meagre.

new camping out under tents around the town, which is five days' journey from the national capital.

Damage at Iguala.

Reports say the earthquake was also intense at Iguala, in the State of Guerrero, destroying the parish church, and many buildings in the city and neighborhood, among the latter being the sugar mill of General Frisbie, an American.

The mill had just been completed and fitted up with American machinery at a cost of \$200,000. The property loss is immense throughout the State of Guerrero.

HOBSON DECLINES TO TALK.

Will Not Say Whether He Intends to

Resign From Navy.

Naval Constructor Richmond Pearson Hobson, of Merrimack fame, who is in charge of the naval exhibit at the Charleston Exposition, was in Washington yesterday. Mr. Hobson at the Navy Department was asked about the truth of newspaper reports that he was going to resign from the naval service to enter politics and that he intended to ask for a year's leave of absence.

"I heard of the first report," said Mr. Hobson, "but my attention has never been called to the second. All I have to say is what I said to the reporter who asked me about the statement that I intended going to be excused from saying anything."

Mr. Hobson was asked if this statement applied to both reports or only the first. "To both," he said.

MR. CROKER'S DEPARTURE.

Will Probably Sail for England on

February 6.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Richard Croker will sail for England on February 6, according to plans of which he has told his friends something.

Mr. Croker's plans are always subject to rearrangement, but this is the date he has set in recent conversations.

Ready to Arrest Lynch.

LONDON, Jan. 17.—Arthur Balfour, First Lord of the Treasury and Govern-

ment leader in the House of Commons, announced in the House this afternoon that if Col. Arthur Lynch, member-elect from Galway, landed in England he would be arrested immediately. Lynch is accused of having fought in the Boer army.

Will Accomplish His Work.

"The conference will accomplish all the things which were mapped out for it."

## ISTHMIAN CANAL COMMISSION CONCLUDES ITS DELIBERATIONS.

ACCUSES THE MACEDONIANS.

LONDON Paper's Correspondent Says

They Abducted Miss Stone.

LONDON, Jan. 18.—The "Daily Graphic" lately sent W. F. Maud, an artist and correspondent, to search for Miss Stone, the abducted American missionary, in the hope, as the paper said, "of casting light on the causes of the incident, and the best means to secure Miss Stone's release."

Mr. Maud's second article, dated December 23, is published today. He asserts positively that Miss Stone is the victim of the Macedonian committee, and that it was political capital, and not money that induced her kidnapping, although, doubtless, a ransom would be a welcome addition to the committee's funds.

He confirms absolutely the statement that the leader of the so-called brigands is not a brigand, but a political agitator of the name of Sarapoff, a Bulgarian ex-officer of evil reputation.

The letter gives an interesting sketch of what Mr. Maud has done to date, but it contains no news.

TRIED TO DIE TOGETHER.

Young Man Kills Girl and Wounds

Himself Slightly.

COFFEEN, Ill., Jan. 17.—About 9 o'clock last night a horse without a driver stopped at Cunniff's livery stable, and in the buggy which he was drawing was found the body of Miss Gertrude Clifford, reclining in the arms of Fred Brockman, who was unconscious.

Two bullet holes in the head of the girl, two slight wounds in Brockman's head and an empty revolver in his hand told the story of the tragedy. Brockman was revived, and admitted that he had killed the girl. He regretted that he had not succeeded in killing himself.

A note written by Brockman was found in his pocket. Part of it read:

"All young fellows, take my advice and don't go the way I have. I hate the way I have done, but forgive me, all. I owe so many people that I can't pay. They are the cause of it."

"I know I have some friends, but they are few. They think I am a beat, but I may meet them all in the other world by and by. I have told Gertrude what I am going to do, and she says she must go too. Bury me by the side of Fred, will you, mother?" FRED AND GERTRUDE.

TO CONTINUE WILL FIGHT.

Dr. Muir to Keep Up Contest Over

McPherson Testament.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Charles G. Hughes, of counsel for the late Mrs. Joseph Muir, in the proceedings to break the will of her mother, Mrs. John R. McPherson, asked Judge Blair in the Orphans' Court, Jersey City, today for a continuance for two weeks.

He said Dr. Muir intended to continue the contest on the strength of a will made by his wife in his favor. Judge Abel I. Smith, counsel for Aaron S. Baldwin, executor of the McPherson estate, who, under the terms of the will, has a life interest in the estate, consented to a continuance, but would not admit that Dr. Muir had any right to continue the contest.

BELIEVES YAGO'S STORY.

The Spaniard Said He Himself Blew

Up the Maine.

CHADRON, Neb., Jan. 17.—Edward Satterlee, who was a member of the committee chosen to investigate the alleged confession of the Spaniard on Bob Yago's ranch in Sioux county, that it was he who sent the battleship Maine to the bottom of Havana Harbor, has returned with the information that Manuel Desilva Braga was not to be found on that ranch.

He was told there that the Spaniard had learned of the investigation and had boarded the eastbound Elkhorn train at Glenn, Neb.

Mr. Satterlee found letters and other papers at the home of Yago which he says convinced him beyond doubt that this Spaniard was in some manner connected with or knows all about the destruction of the Maine.

Pressed with questions he admitted that the papers prove the Spaniard was in Cuba as a military officer during Weyler's regime; that he left there about the time the Maine was destroyed and came to this country.

(Continued on Third Page.)

NEELY, ON WITNESS STAND, EXPLAINS

SALES OF SURCHARGED STAMPS AT HAVANA.

Had Ordered Moya to Dispose of \$1500 Worth—Duty Merely

to See Accounts Balanced—No Details Required.

Master of Copper Coins.

HAVANA, Jan. 17.—The examination of

ex-Director Rathbone in the trial of the postoffice cases was concluded today.

Senior Machade, of counsel for Reeves, one of the accused men, put a few questions to the witness regarding the position of Reeves before July 1, 1899, when he was made assistant auditor. The object of his questions was to show that Rathbone was responsible for any defects in the organization bureau accounts.

Senior Zayas, representing Neely, asked that a letter written by Rathbone to Postmaster General Smith on May 3, 1899, be read. The letter explained that Neely had gone on sick leave and the auditors were complaining that some of his books were missing. Rathbone added that he had telegraphed for Neely to return.

Rathbone Self-Possessed.

Rathbone was a self-possessed witness, but often evaded questions by entering upon long generalizations. He said he did not remember many things.

Neely was called after Rathbone and was examined by the fiscal. He gave the details of his appointment and furnished an explanation of the sale of surcharged stamps. He admitted that he had ordered Moya to sell \$1,500 worth of those stamps, but regarding the sales on April 24, 25 and 26, 1900, he said that Rich had charge of the stamps then.

He added that Mr. Lawlor had established the precedent that the official ac-

counts of the office should be kept by the Auditor's Department. All witnesses had to do was to see that accounts balanced with the Auditor, and to give an account of the total number of stamps received. The details did not matter. He was not obliged to show how he had disposed of stamps.

He explained the double entry of a \$12,000 credit in the postoffice accounts, which, he said, was given to Marshall, his bookkeeper. He did not know if anyone was to blame.

Sale of Copper Coins.

Regarding the sale of copper coins, Neely said these were deposited in the bank for safe-keeping, and were sold in lots by the bank. His account was credited with the lump sum obtained. No vouchers for the sales were presented.

The witness admitted that he was formerly connected with the Neely Printing Company, of Chicago, Ill., but said he had sold out his interest before he came to Cuba. He had held a mortgage of \$10,000 on the plant, but had transferred it to a firm